

4-18-2012

The Good 5 Cent Cigar (4/18/2012)

University of Rhode Island

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cigar>

Recommended Citation

University of Rhode Island, "The Good 5 Cent Cigar (4/18/2012)" (2012). *The Good 5 Cent Cigar (Student Newspaper)*. Book 33.
<http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cigar/33><http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/cigar/33>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Good 5 Cent Cigar (Student Newspaper) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.

The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

Volume 61
Issue 87

'Just what this country needs'
www.ramcigar.com

Wednesday
April 18, 2012

Fraternities, sororities hold annual Greek Week

BY AUDREY O'NEIL
Contributing News Reporter

Fraternities and sororities at the University of Rhode Island have joined together to help raise money for national and local charities.

For more than 60 years, Greek Week has been a long-standing tradition during the spring semester at URI, according to the Greek Life website. During this week, the fraternities and sororities show their school spirit by participating in fun and creative activities and events. Each fraternity and sorority earns points by participating and the group with the most points by the end of the week is declared the winner. Greek Week has raised thousands of dollars in the past for various charities by hosting these events.

Freshman and nursing

major, Ray Bolvin, is a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and is participating in Greek Week for the first time.

"It is really fun to see everyone out there and participating because it makes the events more enjoyable so more people want to be involved," Bolvin said. "It also makes it more enjoyable knowing that we are helping to raise money by doing these crazy things and that we are having fun while doing it."

One of the events Bolvin participated in with his fraternity was the Red Bull Chariot Race that was held yesterday at Fraternity Circle. During the event, teams were required to build their own chariots and race against others.

"It was really fun watch-

Continued on page 3

P.I.N.K. takes week to celebrate women of color on URI campus

BY FARAH CASALINI
News Editor

Every year, multicultural organizations at the University of Rhode Island receive their own week in order to celebrate their specific goals and missions. This week is that of Powerful, Independent, Notoriously, Knowledgable Women (P.I.N.K.)'s turn.

Monday through Thursday this week, P.I.N.K. will be honoring its mission to educate the University of Rhode Island and the surrounding communities on issues pertaining to women of color, in its annual P.I.N.K. week.

"[P.I.N.K.] celebrates women of color on campus," P.I.N.K. president Precious Kafo said. "It helps women of color belong to the university."

Monday, the group hosted a "melting pot" forum, where several people who were born outside of the United States

came to speak about their experiences assimilating to American life.

"[The event] provided an understanding of people who are different than those who surround us every day," Kafo said.

Yesterday, the group had a forum of interviews where representatives from Roosevelt Hall spoke about cover letters, resumes and how women can dress professionally. Today, P.I.N.K. will be hosting the "Unsung Heroine Awards," where women who have impacted the women in the group and the campus will be celebrated.

To finish off the week, the group will be having a "party," Kafo said.

Recognized by Student Senate only five years ago, the organization has 82 members willing to be a part of the sisterhood P.I.N.K. is, Kafo said. She said the group acts a support

system for each of its members.

"It's a sisterhood of mostly multicultural women who help each other," Kafo said. "It's a venue for [women of color] to feel they are represented on campus."

Kafo said the organization shines light on women of color, who are usually not seen or talked about around campus.

"It helps students to gain a new perspective of women who are unique," she said.

As for her own experience, Kafo said she joined the organization because she wanted something she could relate to. She found that P.I.N.K. did just that for her, and she hopes it will do the same for incoming generations.

"I hope [the organization] will shape the way [younger generations] will carry out their undergraduate career," she said. "I want them look up to us."

Group creates film, reaches out to students struggling with sexuality

BY KIMBERLY DELANDE
News Reporter

Last Saturday, the Rhode Island PBS aired "It Gets Better at URI: Coming Out for Change." The film was created by members of the University of Rhode Island LGBTQ Women's Group to support students in the community who may be struggling with their sexual identity.

The 56-minute film was created chiefly by five graduate students who had no prior experience in filmmaking, but wanted to do their part to help create change for their community. The students, Jen Kaye, Kim McGuinness, Portia Burnette, Christina Kinney and Dana Speesler were inspired to make the film by the national "It Gets Better" campaign.

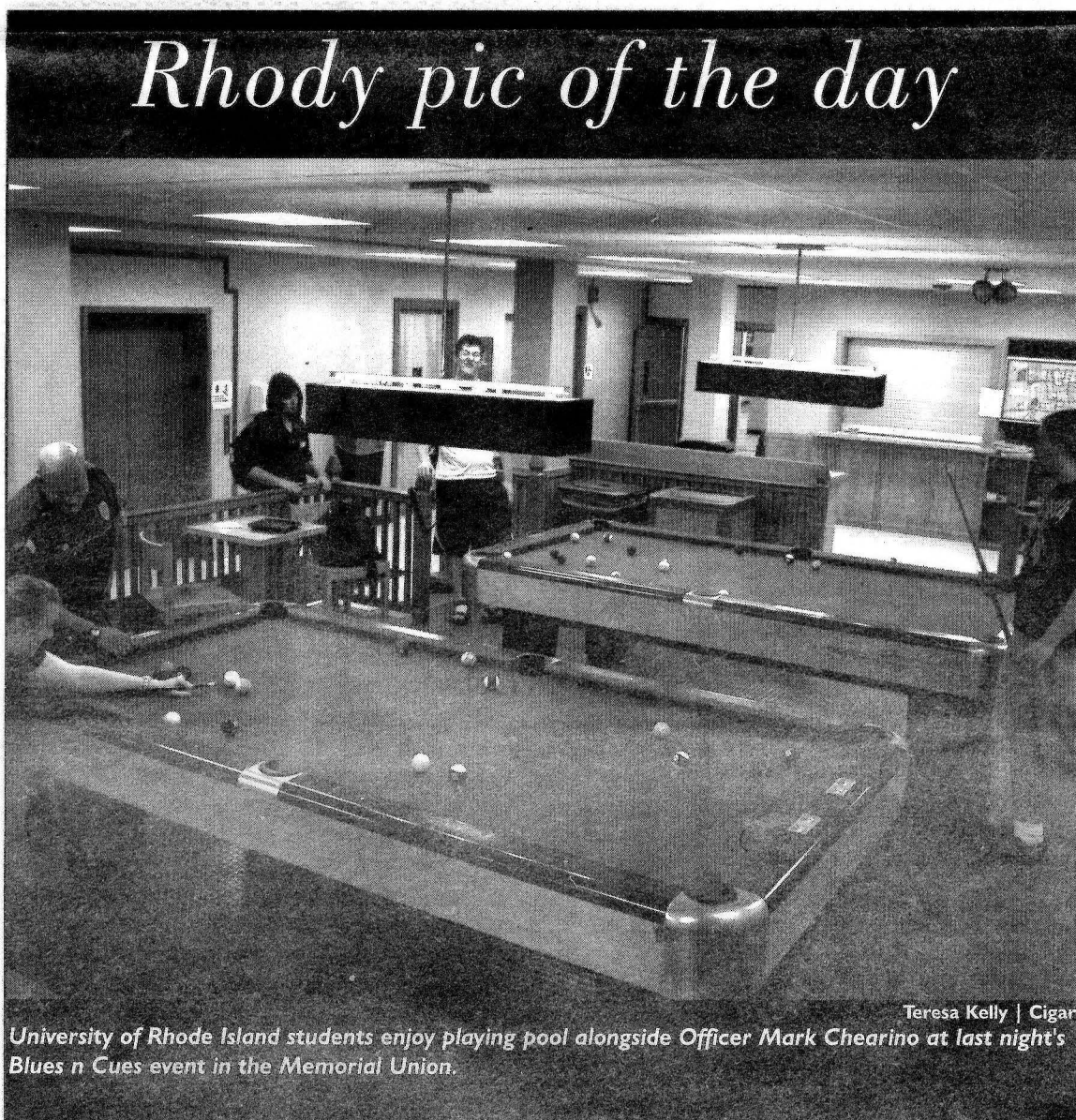
The "It Gets Better" campaign is a national movement that strives to reach out to gay and lesbian youth, in

response to the media's publicizing of suicides that have resulted from the harassment of gay students. The idea to create a URI-specific film was suggested during a Women's Group meeting, which initiated the project.

"We wanted to inspire hope in students that may be struggling with their sexual or gender identifies," McGuinness said. "We also started the project because we wanted to identify supportive faculty and staff at URI. We all thought it was a great idea and would be a fun project to take on."

The film featured a variety of members of the URI community, including students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni. Some of the people featured in the film were of the LGBTQ community, but others were allies, or supporters of the community. McGuinness said the

Continued on page 3



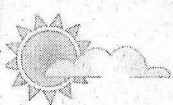
University of Rhode Island students enjoy playing pool alongside Officer Mark Chearino at last night's Blues n Cues event in the Memorial Union.

Teresa Kelly | Cigar

The Good 5-Cent Cigar

Today's forecast
62 °F

Some beautiful
but slightly less
freakish weather!



Nickel Brief:

Check out tomorrow's issue for coverage of Ron Paul's visit to URI.

Thinking about seeing
"Cabin in the Woods"?
Check out our review first!

See page 2.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Cabin in the Woods' a refreshing, original film that pokes fun at horror movie cliches

BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Editor

"The Cabin in the Woods" is the kind of movie that I would love to discuss in detail, but can't because it would rob the picture of its element of surprise. Many of my favorite movie-going experiences are ones where I went in not knowing much about the film and was able to enjoy everything unfold as it happened onscreen. "The Cabin in the Woods" is one of those great experiences.

I'll give a very basic plot so as to not ruin the central conceit. Five college students go off for a weekend of partying and fun at a cabin...in the woods. That sounds a lot like "Evil Dead" or any other generic '80s horror movie right? Well, there is much, much more to the plot than that, but I won't divulge too many details. Crazy monsters are terrorizing the college students, but it's not as simple as that.

What I liked most about these characters is both their easy likability and how they don't easily fall into the clichéd stereotypes. The innocent "virgin" isn't much of a virgin, the arrogant jock is actually friendly and smart, the token stoner idiot is more knowledgeable than he seems, etc. As the plot starts kicking into high gear, the idea of always using stereotypical characters in horror movies gets turned on its head.

Ultimately, "The Cabin in the Woods" reveals itself to transcend horror boundaries and becomes a reinvention/rejuvenation of the genre much like "Scream" was in the 90s. It is simultaneously a love letter to horror and a criticism of the tired tropes that get repeated dozens of times in the genre. The final scene of the film, where one character is forced to kill another to survive, could almost be seen as a middle finger to the "torture"

subgenre that has sprung up recently with "Saw" and "Hostel."

Since "Cabin" is very much a horror comedy and not a straight ahead scare fest, there are some very funny moments that poke fun at conventions of horror movies. There is one about audiences wanting to see cheap nudity and gratuitous violence in horror movies that had me doubling over, and another where one character questions the idea of splitting up that was great too.

For its first hour, the movie moves along at a speedy pace, successfully chugging out jokes, some decent scares and surprises along the way. However, I kept asking myself where it was going and if there was more to the story than what was revealed. Perhaps this was intentional on director Drew Goddard and writer Joss Whedon's (who is handling "The Avengers") part because around that time the

final half hour goes completely bonkers in a good way. My friend who I saw the movie with said it could be interpreted as "the ultimate horror movie," and in that last climax where everything but the kitchen sink is thrown in, it just about earns that title.

While I did compare "The Cabin in the Woods" to "Scream" not too long ago, the two could not be more different. "Cabin" takes its meta aspects much further than "Scream" did, by not only referencing the clichés of horror movies, but also dissecting and integrating them into the plot, which is why they work the way they do. That is not to say that the movie is an intellectual exercise. On the contrary, it's a smartly conceived thrill ride in the vein of "Inception," where the cleverness never threatens to overcome the sheer entertainment value. Don't let anyone spoil it for you, and go see this genuinely original movie.

Horror movies throughout decades have constantly reinvented genre

BY MATT GOUDREAU
Entertainment Writer

While filmmaking as a whole has changed consistently with the times, one genre has dominated the changing landscape over the years. Originally more of a cult or subgenre of drama, horror has become one of the most dominating genres.

We have come a long way from the silent era of the 1920s to the gratuitous violence of films we see today. Single films, or even groups of films, have been responsible for the shift. The newly released "Cabin in the Woods" is being hailed as a game-changer, sparking memories of other films that paved the way for this new film to reinvent the genre.

When the Universal Studios monster movies ("Frankenstein," "Dracula," etc.) were starting to fall out of popularity in the 1950s, Hammer Studios across the pond was preparing to overhaul the perception of horror. By pumping blood, nudity, and even sexual themes into these classic tales that Universal could not provide, Hammer set the groundwork for exploitative horror films, and the idea of remakes which plague the film industry all too often.

Speaking of being across the pond, English director Alfred Hitchcock would also change the horror genre with the 1960s "Psycho," which

stunned audiences with its suspenseful tone and infamous plot twists. It also changed the horror genre by killing off its female protagonist early in the film. Around this time, it was expected that any character you spent a lot of time with in a movie would be safe from harm. Hitchcock changed that conception with one iconic murder scene, often subjected to frequent parody. This led to the birth of the slasher genre, but even that subgenre would experience change in years to come.

The '70s are often considered the revival of horror genre. The decade was also responsible for changing the slasher genre with its films "Halloween" and "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre." Both films were complete opposites, as the former is tame in its violence, while the other is explicit and even repulsive at times. These also inspired faces for their killers, such as Michael Myers, who then led to other icons such as Freddy Krueger and Jason Voorhees.

For the most part, the '80s and early '90s all followed the slasher genre or tried to be violent for the sake of violence. While few movies from that period stand out, a couple of cult films called "Evil Dead" and "Evil Dead II" were the first exploitive horror films to add comedic elements and self-parody. In a sense, they're classic B-

movies, but somehow connected to viewers and paved the way for movies such as "Slither" (a personal favorite of mine) and "Scream" in 1996. "Scream" rejuvenated the slasher genre by poking fun at itself and by addressing clichés in horror. Characters made references to elements such as abstinence, means of survival, and are even shown watching "Halloween" at one point.

This new found footage genre can be traced to "The Blair Witch Project," but considering how poor a film I find it to be, I can't exactly call it groundbreaking. The "Saw" genre has been called groundbreaking for its traps and violence. I cannot exactly call that a good thing because I feel this has desensitized moviegoers, leading to directors trying to outdo each other with their violence.

Sure, other films from Hammer, along with "The Exorcist" pushed the envelope, but it was done to suit the story and make them stand out. Now, every horror film seems the same to me. Luckily, "The Cabin in the Woods" seems to put some newfound life into the genre by mixing comedic undertones with visual horror and plot twists, while dissecting horror clichés much like "Scream" did. Maybe this will remind viewers that being simple or original can be scary, rather than simply tearing someone's heart out for shock

Contact the
Cigar

Memorial Union
Room 125

Editor-in-Chief
Hensley Carrasco
uricigar@gmail.com

Sports
Department
rhodysports@gmail.com

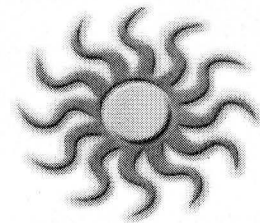
Entertainment
Editor
Augie King
uricigarentertainment@gmail.com

Staff meetings

Thursdays at
7 p.m.

Be there!

ARE YOU 18-25 YEARS OLD?
HAVE YOU RECENTLY USED
MARIJUANA OR ALCOHOL?



You may be eligible to participate in a research study at Butler Hospital.

Participation is completely confidential and you will receive compensation for all interviews.

CALL PROJECT HEAT:
455-6650

OR E-MAIL:
PROJECTHEAT@BUTLER.ORG

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Looking for an energetic student for a short term marketing project. Part-time, flexible hours. Need to start immediately and end May 10. Good Pay. 508-494-8905.

Living

Cute 1 bedroom cottage for rent. Fully furnished in a nice quiet neighborhood. 1 roommate wanted. Your own bed/bath in Harbor Village at the Commons, apartment next to pool/gym, available May 25 or Sept. \$650/month plus utilities. croth1991@yahoo.com.

6 bed New Eastward. Acad. '12-'13. 15 Greene Lane (www.vrbo.com/167707) 43 Glendale Road (www.homeaway.com/vacation-rental/p303174). Email mjvercillo@hotmail.com or call 917-270-2185.

Bonnet Shores, 4 bed, 2 bath, furnished, renovated, washer-dryer. Available now, year round, summer, winter. \$1,500-\$1,800/month. 401-529-3201.

4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 full kitchen 2012-2013 school year rental available in Eastward Look. Fully furnished. See vrbo.com/291403 for more info + pics. Email bethbrown112@gmail.com 401-241-7347

Narragansett 2-bedroom house near Charlie O's. Sept. 2012 to May 2013. \$700 per month. No pets. Parking. Maple Ave. 789-7441.

Eastward Look North, extra-large 4 bedroom/2.5 bath, \$2100/month. Nicely furnished, includes recycling + cleaning. Mature students wanted. [#379941](http://Homeaway.com), email amy.bartolone@gmail.com.

South Kingstown- 4 bedroom Cape. 12 mins. to campus, plenty of parking. \$1100/month plus utilities. Sept. '12-May '13, call 401-263-1995.

Selling your
ride?

Need a
roommate?

Place an ad in
the Cigar
today!
874-2914

Greek

From page 1

ing the team from our frat build the chariot because everyone wants to win the race," Bolvin said. "But it really isn't about winning. We are just focused on going out there and supporting our frat and having fun."

Sigma Phi Epsilon also participated in their own fraternity event, Slip n' Slide bowling, which was held yesterday at the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity House. This event was mainly focused on fun. Each person was required to slide down a slip n' slide in order to knock over the oversized inflatable bowling pins.

Other Greek Week events included Broom Ball and the Greek Life Eat Off. During the Greek Life Eat Off, hosted by the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, each team was challenged to eat foods that were placed in front of them. The team that ate the most food won this event and earned points for the week.

The next event in store for Greek Week is the Hot Shot Contest. The contest, a three-point shootout, is taking place in the Tootell gym at 4 p.m. The team who makes the highest number of three-point shots, wins.

"I am definitely looking forward to all of the events left for this week," Bolvin said. "I hope that our frat can continue to earn points and show the Sigma Phi spirit."

Film

From page 1

allies "came forward and spoke about why it was important to be an ally," while members of the LGBTQ community, "told their stories of struggles and perseverance, determination and change, in order to send the message, 'it gets better.'"

"Although the film features individuals associated with URI in some way, it is appropriate for an audience that extends far beyond URI," McGuiness said. "This includes any LGBTQ students of any age and any educators, parents or anyone anywhere who seeks to raise awareness and support the LGBTQ community."

According to McGuiness, education is the first step to bringing about change, and that "It Gets Better" can act as the tool needed for people to educate themselves about this issue. McGuiness expressed hope that the film would also "be a starting point for educators to discuss what URI needs to do to become a safe environment for LGBTQ individuals."

"Schools have to recognize that there are LGBTQ students and LGBTQ teachers who needs must be met," McGuiness said. "Change is not going to happen without taking initiative."

For Guinness, working on this film "opened her eyes to how much support exists for the LGBTQ community." The five students, along with their advisors, human development and family studies professor Annemarie Vaccaro, clinical counselor Holly Nichols and a student life member, Carolyn Sovet, were able to assemble people last summer who expressed an interest in telling their story, or offering money to write the film. The film, McGuiness said, could not have been possible without their support.

"After the premiere, and after all of the positive reactions from students, faculty, staff and people I didn't even know, I've realized that getting the ball rolling toward change isn't all that hard," McGuiness said. "Making long term changes is a much more daunting task, but you have to start somewhere. The URI LGBTQ Women's Group is on our way."

Police arrest 6-year-old for throwing temper tantrum

ATLANTA (AP)—A 6-year-old who threw a tantrum at her U.S. school was taken away in handcuffs, firing up a debate over whether teachers and police are overreacting with disruptive students.

Salecia Johnson's family lashed out Tuesday over her treatment and said she was badly shaken, while the school system and the police defended their handling of the incident.

Civil rights advocates and criminal justice experts say frustrated teachers and principals across the country are calling in the police to deal with even relatively minor disruptions.

Some juvenile authorities say they believe it is happening more often, driven in part by an increased police presence at schools over the past two decades because of tragedies like the Columbine school massacre. But numbers are hard to come by.

"Kids are being arrested for being kids," said Shannon Kennedy, a civil rights attorney who is suing the Albuquerque, New Mexico, school district, where hundreds of kids have been arrested in the past few years for minor offenses. Those include having cellphones in class, burping, refusing to switch seats and destroying a history book. In 2010, a 14-year-old boy was arrested for inflating a condom in class.

Salecia was accused of tearing items off the walls and throwing books and toys in an outburst Friday at her school in Georgia. Police said she also threw a small shelf that struck the principal in the leg, jumped on a paper shredder and tried to break a glass frame.

Police refused to say what set off the tantrum. The school called police, and when an officer tried to calm the child in the principal's office, she resisted, authorities said. She was handcuffed and taken away in a patrol car.

Baldwin County schools Superintendent Geneva Brazier

called the student's behavior "violent and disruptive" and said the girl was taken away out of safety concerns for others.

Interim Police Chief Dray Swicord said the department's policy is to handcuff people when they are taken to the police station, regardless of their age, "for the safety of themselves as well as the officer."

He said the girl will not be charged with a crime because she is too young.

The girl's aunt, Candace Ruff, went with the child's mother to pick her up at the police station. She said Salecia complained about the handcuffs. "She said they were really tight. She said they really hurt her wrists," Ruff said. "She was so shaken up."

The girl was suspended and can't return to school until August, her mother, Constance Ruff, told WMAZ-TV.

"I have had some concern for a while that the schools have relied a little too heavily on police officers to handle disciplinary problems," said Darrel Stephens, a former Charlotte, North Carolina, police chief and executive director of the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

Some civil rights advocates, educators and law enforcement officials are concerned that officers are operating without special training, and that overwhelmed teachers are unaware that calling in the police could also result in serious criminal charges.

In Albuquerque, Annette Montano said her 13-year-old son was arrested last year after burping in gym class.

Albuquerque school officials have declined to comment on the arrests there. But Ellen Bernstein, president of the Albuquerque teachers union, said students' bad behavior is more extreme these days.

From sexual harassment to children throwing furniture, "there is more chronic and extreme disrespect, disinterest and kids who basically don't care," she said.

Summer at BSU

Stay on pace to graduate, get a head start on the fall or focus on a single subject with **BSU Summer Session.**

Fabulous. Summer session typically offers smaller class sizes with an intense focus, all on our fabulously scenic campus.

It's fast. Complete your course in 5 or 10 weeks.

Have fun. Our compact scheduling and online options give you time for summer fun.

Fab. Fast. Fun



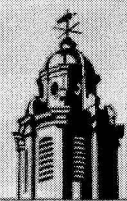
Classes run during the day, evening & online.

Five-Week Summer Session 1 ... May 29 to July 2

Five-Week Summer Session 2 ... July 9 to August 10

Ten-Week Summer Session May 29 to August 10

Register TODAY!



BRIDGEWATER

STATE UNIVERSITY

www.BSUsummer.com

508-531-2788



Rhody
SPORTS

Women's track team sets class, personal records at Brown University Invitational

BY JONATHAN SHIDELER
Sports Staff Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's track and field team had an outstanding performance this past weekend, setting a total of five class records in the Brown University Invitational in Providence, R.I.

"There were great performances all around from the team," assistant coach John Melnick said. "The team took advantage of great weather and were very productive which is great to see."

Sophomore Hannah Janeczak won the 100-meter dash, setting a personal best and a class record with a time of 11.94 seconds. Janeczak also placed first in the 200-meter dash with a final time of 24.93.

Sophomore Kaylan Pickford took first place in the pole vault with a personal best of 3.60 meters.

Junior Hayley Madsen finished first overall in the

800-meter dash on her way to a personal best time of 2:12.58.

Senior Kalyn Sheehan had a tremendous weekend. She won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.34. In the 200-meter she finished second with a time of 24.97.

Sheehan was also on the 4x100-meter relay team with senior Chelsea Jubrey, sophomore Jennifer Christian and Janeczak. The team finished first with a final time of 46.46, which was good enough for the team's second best finish all time.

Two runners set personal bests during their runs. Senior Alexis Capozzi finished with a final time of 26.15, while freshman Erin Flanagan crossed the finish slightly behind her, finishing with 27.24.

Senior Haley Mathewson, junior Rebecca Wright and freshman Nicolette Pelrine tacked on personal bests in the 800 for the Rams. Pelrine had a final time of 2:20.52,

Mathewson wrapped up her day with a final time of 2:26.21 and Wright finished the race with a time of 2:23.35.

The team is hitting its stride as championship season is just around the corner, which is something coaches like to see.

"The team has developed [its] base," Melnick said. "It's important for them to improve on what they have achieved so far. As long as they stay competitive, stay healthy and get ready for May, we should do great [in the Atlantic-10 Conference Championships]."

This weekend, the team will travel to Princeton, N.J., to compete in the Princeton Invitational. According to Melnick, the team's approach will be similar to what it has been throughout the spring.

"We just need to treat this meet like the rest, make sure we improve on what we have done already and not just watch what is going on around us," Melnick said.

Women's tennis team keeps on winning, defeats Albany

BY TIM LIMA
Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's tennis team bid adieu to its seniors on Saturday, beating Albany 6-1 and winning its seventh straight match.

"My last regular season match at URI was definitely heart wrenching," senior Tristany Leikem said. "At the time, I tried to focus on the match but I had a million emotions."

Her emotions, however, failed to alter her play, and Tristany went on to win her singles matches 6-0, 6-3. Saturday's match marked not only her last match at URI, but her twin sister Kristen's. A long way from their hometown of Tucson, Ariz., the sisters have relied upon each other for support along the way. This made Saturday's senior day special for the twins.

"Having Kristen there was great because we have completed this chapter of our lives together," Tristany said. "I wish our whole family could have been there, but we have a great support system here at URI."

The team's record of 12-7 is not as remarkable as the road they took to get there. During a losing streak of six consecutive games from Feb. 17 to March 15, the Rams looked as though their season might have been lost. Since then, in what is a clear example of determination and will, the Rams haven't lost, winning seven straight matches. Two of those seven matches came against conference opponents, who the Rams will soon face in the Atlantic-10 Tournament. With a 2-2 record in the conference, URI is approaching the tournament with confidence.

Along with Tristany and Kristen, Pam Emery also marked the end of her college-tennis career. Kristen was beaten by her opponent Kirsten Scott in a close match, while Emery defeated her opponent, Livia Gherman 7-5, 4-6, 1-0.

The Rams now look to their most important part of the season, the conference championships. The championships will begin on Thursday in Charlottesville, Va.

Cleveland Indians make Johnny Damon signing official

CLEVELAND (AP) — Johnny Damon has left the on-deck circle. He's officially with the Cleveland Indians.

Next stop: The starting lineup — and maybe the 3,000-hit club.

The 38-year-old outfielder signed a minor league contract on Tuesday, the next step before he joins the major league club and possibly moves into a permanent spot in left field. The sides agreed on a \$1.25 million deal last week, when the Indians were off to a sluggish start with a team batting average below .200.

However, general manager Chris Antonetti said he had been in talks with Damon and his agent Scott Boras long before the Indians opened 1-4. The Indians believe Damon, entering his 17th season and with an impressive resume of postseason experience, can keep them keep climbing in the standings.

"We still think he has some quality baseball in him," Antonetti said.

Damon, who can earn another \$1.4 million in performance bonuses based on plate appearances, is excited about joining the Indians —

his seventh AL team. He'll be reunited with former teammates Shelley Duncan, Derek Lowe and Casey Kotchman.

"They're a team that's building for the future, but they also have a chance to win now," Damon said. "That's a good thing to have. They locked up a few players and I know they might be working on a few more, possibly. It's that right mix. A team that's as youthful as they are, and adding a guy like Derek Lowe during the offseason, and now adding a guy like me, hopefully we can give them a boost and some experience."

Damon is at the team's year-round training complex in Goodyear, Ariz., getting game ready after not being in a spring camp for the first time since he was picked in the first round by Kansas City in 1995. Damon, who needs 277 hits to reach 3,000 in his career, will likely spend some time with Triple-A Columbus before joining the Indians.

Damon thinks he can be ready soon.

"I feel like I can be ready in a week," said Damon, who spent Tuesday running, shagging flies and lifting weights. "I kept myself in pretty good

shape during the offseason. That's why I don't think it's going to be too long. But, I also understand that when the Cleveland Indians do get me, I need to be in great shape and just be healthy and ready to go."

When he's brought up, Damon will likely take over in left field for Duncan, a part-time player in the past who has been starting this season. Duncan was needed in left because the Indians had to implement an outfield shift, moving Michael Brantley over to center with Grady Sizemore on the disabled list following back surgery.

Duncan has delivered. He leads the Indians with a .320 average entering Tuesday night's game in Seattle.

Once Sizemore returns, Antonetti said it's possible the Indians could carry five outfielders — Damon, Brantley, Duncan, Sizemore and Shin-Soo Choo — the rest of this season.

Damon knows there are no guarantees he'll play every day. He'll have to earn playing time and continue to produce to stay in manager Manny Acta's lineup.

"I understand the game

and how guys can get hot and you can't take them out of the lineup," he said on a conference call. "I also understand that I can get hot and it can be tough to get me out of the lineup. I'm here for the team. It's not a story about me. It's a story about the Cleveland Indians adding another guy to help them throughout the season. Whatever role it's going to be — a platoon thing or an everyday thing or spell guys when they're tired, play a little first — I'm up for whatever."

A career .286 hitter, Damon also brings the Indians leadership and playoff experience. As Antonetti said, Damon is "universally respected" and can serve as a mentor to some of Cleveland's younger players. But the Indians believe his biggest impact will be between the lines despite approaching 40, when most major leaguers have retired.

Last season, Damon batted .261 with 29 doubles, seven triples, 16 homers, 73 RBIs and 19 steals in 150 games for the Tampa Bay Rays. It was the 16th consecutive season Damon has played at least 140 games, a feat he

shares with only Hank Aaron, Brooks Robinson and Pete Rose.

Damon has appeared in 59 postseason games for the Rays, Oakland Athletics, New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox.

The 3,000-hit milestone is right in front of him, but Damon said it was never a personal goal.

He'll retire one day, but he's not planning to stop anytime soon.

"I'm playing to win," he said. "I'm playing for the Tribe fans. I'm playing for the Indians organization. I'm not really playing for myself. Obviously, I always want to go out there and play well and treat the game with respect, but there's a lot of fans out there that really wanted to see me keep pushing and keep fighting."

"I wasn't ready to pack it up. So 3,000 could be on the horizon, but if it comes or not, when I leave this game I want to make sure there's no regrets. As long as I keep doing what I did last year, and hopefully this is a successful year, I'm going to keep going."

THOSE WHO CAN'T PLAY, WRITE!

FIND OUT HOW AT OUR MEETINGS THURSDAYS AT 7 P.M.

MEMORIAL UNION ROOM 125